

# MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL

July 21, 2020

6:00 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Common Council of the City of Rushville met on the above date and time at 330 North Main Street Suite 200 Rushville Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:** The Pledge to the Flag was recited by those present.

**PRAYER:** Councilman Berkemeier led those present in prayer.

**ROLL CALL:** Bob Bridges, Brad Berkemeier, Elton Marzon, Mike Daubenspeck, and Aaron Gurley answered roll call. Also present were City Attorney, Tracy Newhouse, and Cassie Roth, *Whitewater Publications*.

**MINUTES:** Bridges moved to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2020 meeting as presented. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Pavey reported the following:

1. Introduced Cassie Roth with *Whitewater Publication*. The first publication will be out August 5.
2. Passed around a marketing piece for Council to review and give their feedback.

**CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Council President Berkemeier said the answers to Comp Plan survey were interesting and there was good participation.

He also reminded everyone of the 5 days of prayer being held this week at the Conservation Club from 6:00-7:00. The last day is Friday.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **Stellar Designation** – Work continues on Morgan Street.
- **Amphitheater/Park Board** – Riverside Park Committee met and decided to cancel all concerts except the last one which is scheduled for the weekend of Rush Fest. They decided to hold off on that one and see how things are as time gets closer.
- **APC/BZA** – Nothing.
- **Housing** – They are working on plumbing and foundations.
- **ECDC** – They are working on a couple of projects. One of those is the Covid Small Business OCRA Grant.

- **Cherry Street** – Nothing.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Animal** – Director Hannah reported that Mercedes Telking is no longer employed with the City. She has hired a part-time person to clean in the mornings and be on call. She will be hiring another part-time person for evenings.

**Police** – Chief Tucker reported that the data for the 10<sup>th</sup> & Maple stop sign request was inconclusive. They will withdraw the request at this time.

**Fire** – Chief Munson said Rescue II is still out of service. It should be back this Friday.

A firefighter was exposed to the Coronavirus. He has been tested and it was negative.

Mayor Pavey, Dr. Williams, Chief Munson, and Assistant Chief Justice have met regarding options for re-structuring the department.

**Code** – Director Jenkins reported that the new Comcate system is up and working on the City website. Citizens are urged to use this system to lodge complaints.

**Park** – Director Burklow has received word from Doug Sherwood that there will be no baseball this year.

The labyrinth is complete at the CJD Park.

**CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS:** None.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Rushville Property Revitalization Program – 1900 N Main** – Nothing.
2. **City of Rushville Public Giving and Community Improvement Mayor's Appointments**  
–Mayor Pavey has been contacting possible candidates for the appointments.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Boulders Agreement for Sale and Purchase of Lots** – The Board of Works approved the agreement for the sale and purchase of lots. They also approved section 1 of the manual.
2. **Rushville City Utility Update** – Utility Board Member, Phil King, was present to answer questions. There was a meeting today with HWC on the analysis and how to work through it. They took water samples and found that the range was acceptable but still cloudy. We are now beta testing and will continue to monitor. Gurley said this simply means that the water condition is acceptable but not very marketable. King said the

study will give us new direction of which direction to go and clearness. The north tower is currently getting worked on and this may cause some cloudiness.

We will continue working on policies. Mayor Pavey said we should continue to urge the citizens to use Comcate to report water issues. Some of the complainants feel their concerns are being brushed off as not very important. We need to improve customer service. King said we need to identify the issues and make sure we address and follow up with the issues. We can't just turn a switch to fix the problems. HWC will be here August 5<sup>th</sup> to start interviewing. It will take about 90 days. Pavey said the Utility Board is very committed to fixing the issues.

Daubenspeck asked if they had considered hooking up the water softeners. King said they would need a lot of work to get the softener to work properly. If it is not working properly we would have salty water. We probably need to stick with the path we are on. The water softeners may come up later. Bridges said IDEM has said water softeners are not cost effective. IDEM said it would be less expensive to purchase one for everyone's home. Berkemeier told King that Council would be willing to help out if needed and that we should all work together.

3. **Inter-Departmental Agreements/Restructuring** – Pavey said he was just giving a heads up. They are working on new agreements to allow things to flow more efficiently and more controlled.
4. **Coronavirus Update** – Per the Governor, we are still at 4.5 into August. The Health Taskforce and the Economic Recovery Taskforce continue to meet bi-monthly. We are doing more testing and the percentage of testing vs. the percentage of positive is a factor in why we are seeing our numbers increasing. We are seeing less hospitalization. They are starting to know how to treat the virus. .

**CLAIMS AND MONTHLY BANK RECONCILIATION** – Berkemeier moved to approve the claims and June 2020 bank reconciliation as presented. Marzon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE:** Berkemeier said he was asked by Crystal Woods about the lighting situation. Pavey said we still have one family to contact. We have had 2 other requests for lights in different areas. We will check into this.

**ADJOURN:** There was no further business to come before Council; Bridges moved to adjourn. Berkemeier seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.